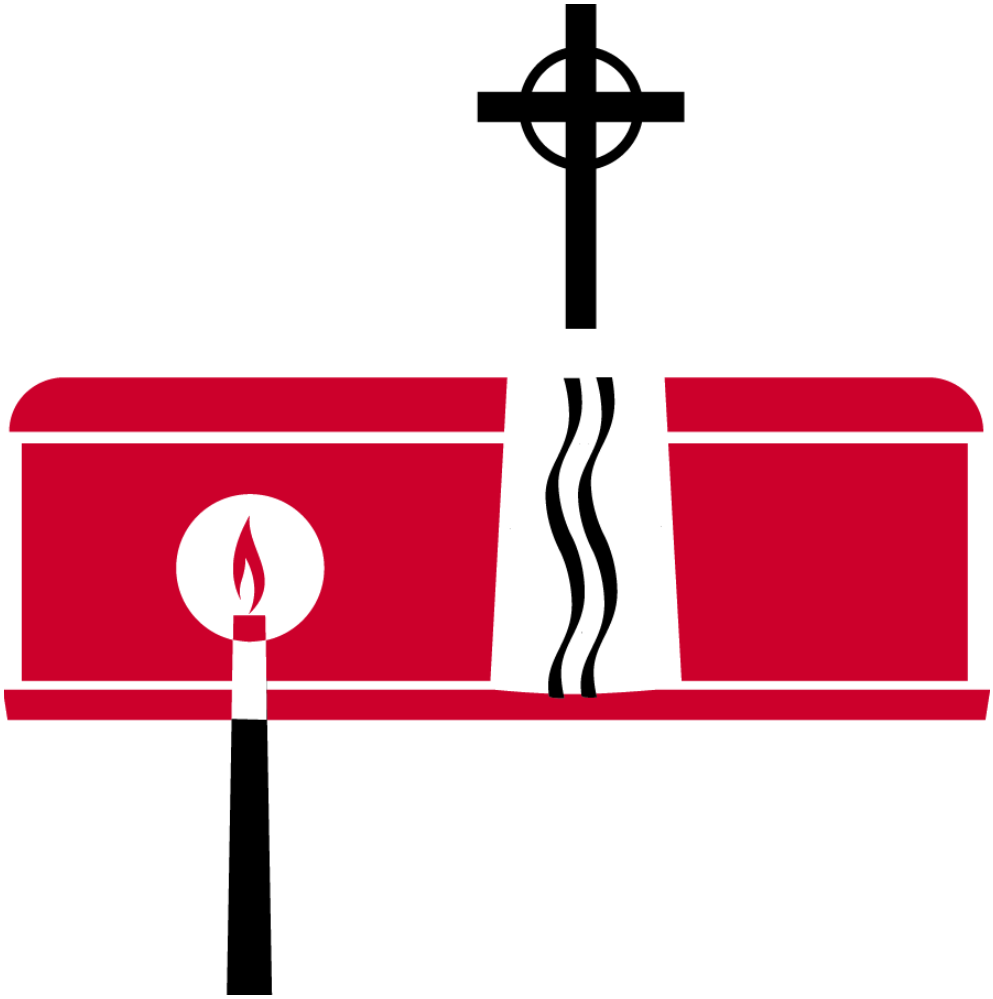
Memorial Service for Charles Conklin

A celebration of life and witness to the resurrection.



June 15, 2024 – 2:30pm
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Ypsilanti, MI

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world.
We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,
to remember before God our brother Charles,
to give thanks for his life, to commend him to our merciful redeemer,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

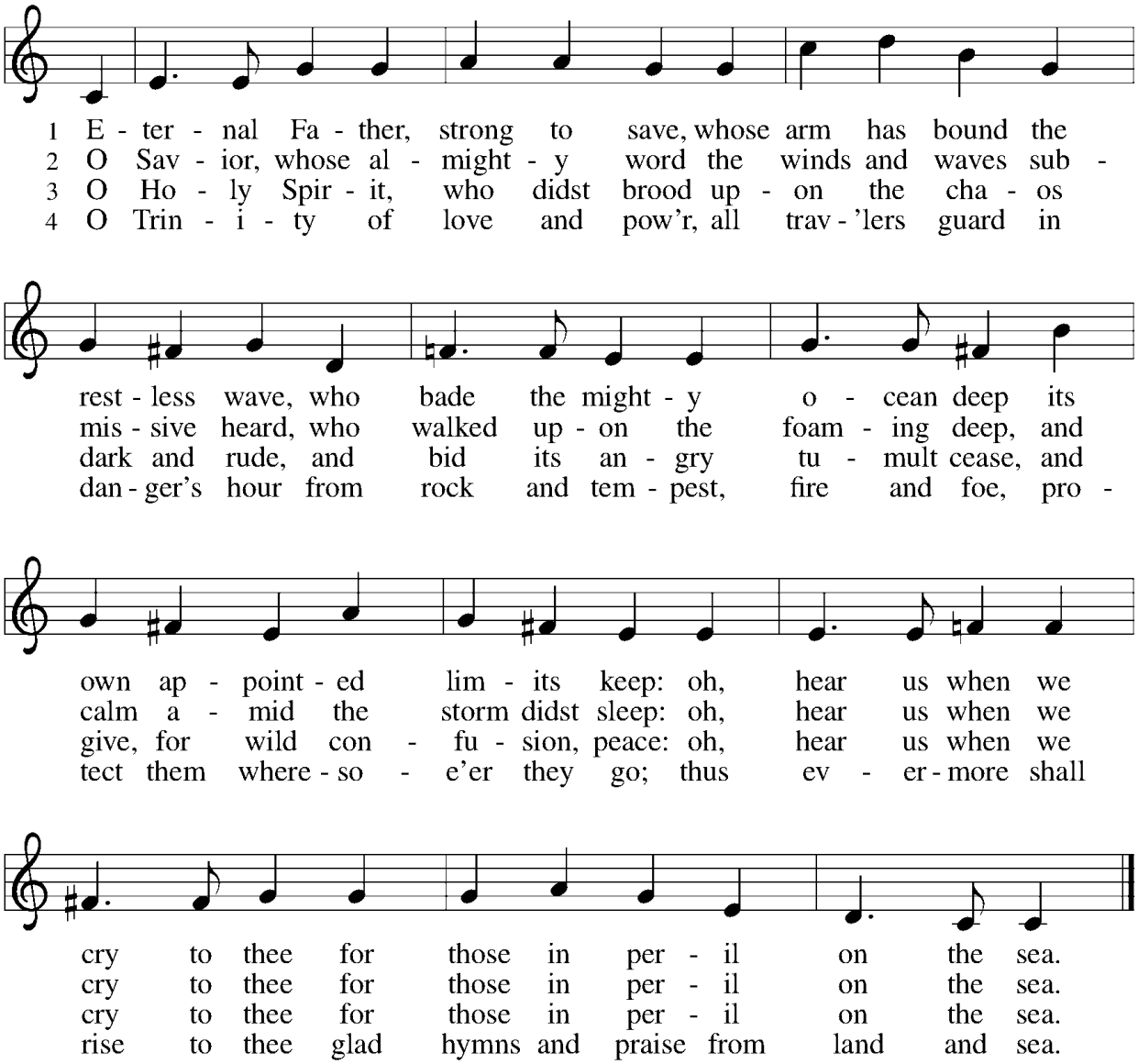
Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.
We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.
We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.
We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"* ELW 756


1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brother Charles. We thank you for giving him to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

REMEMBRANCES

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

51 Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be
changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the
trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be
changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this
mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When this perishable body puts on
imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that
is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."
55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"
56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to
God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-7

A reading from Isaiah.

[1]But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
[2]When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
[3]For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
[5]Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you; [6]I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth — [7]everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:25-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
[25]At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; [26]yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. [27]All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
[28]Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. [29]Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30]For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

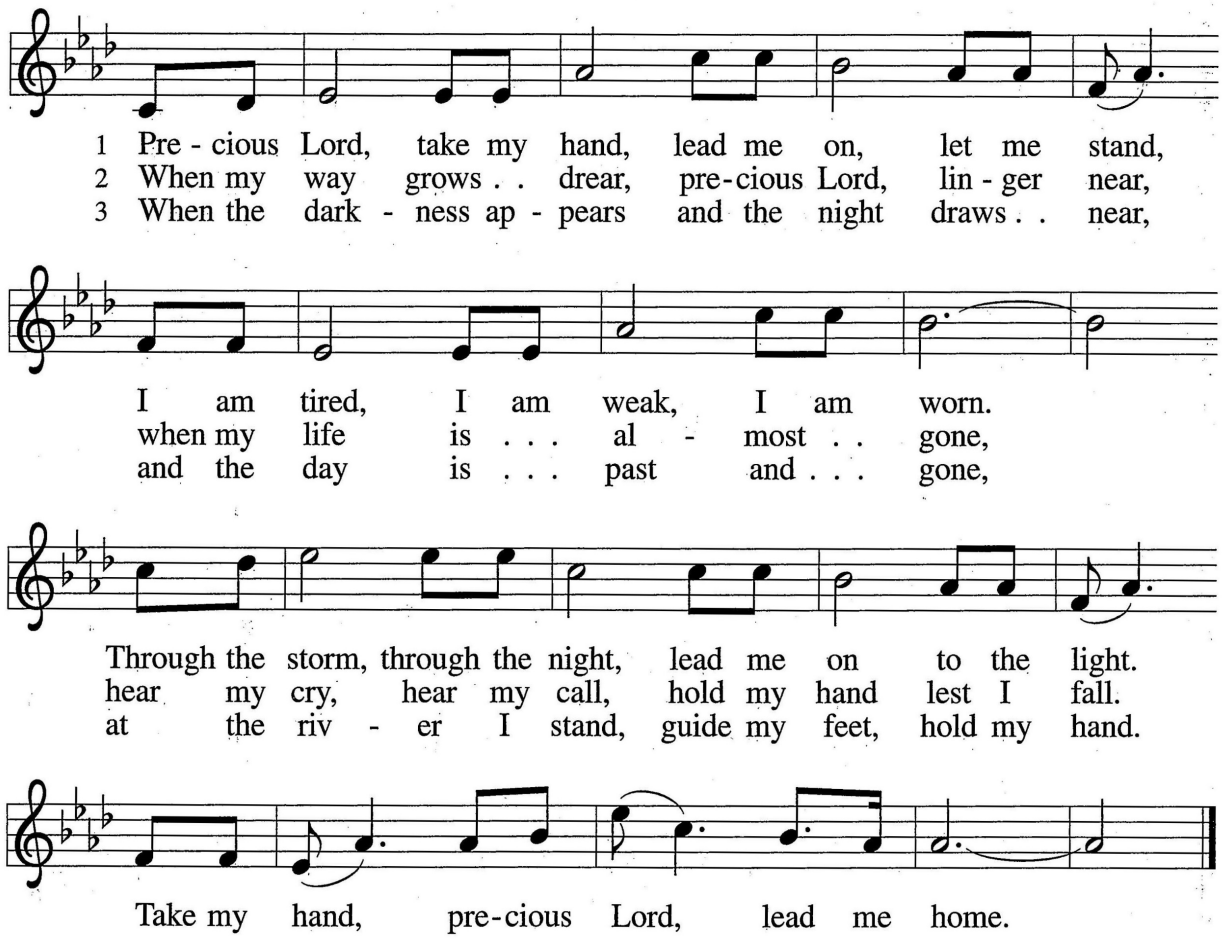
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Joshua Rinas

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"* ELW 773


1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

PRECIOUS LORD
Irregular

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

A: Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ. Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

A: God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

MEAL

God gives us a foretaste of the feast to come

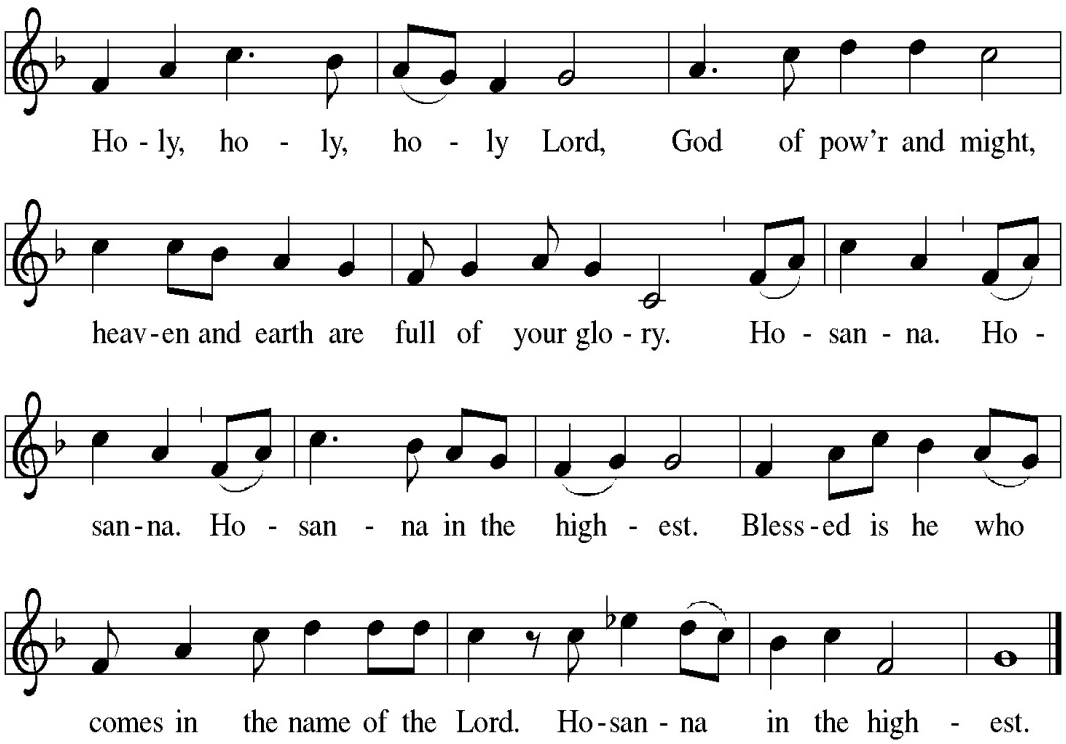
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy are you, O Lord, and great is your majesty. All the saints in heaven and on earth sing their praise of your eternal glory.

For in the beginning, you prepared the worlds by your holy Word, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. You laid out your holy plan of creation and redemption, that all who might know you would have faith, not in things seen, but in things not seen.

By faith, the patriarchs dared to hope in the promise of your love and care. By faith, the prophets revealed your word of the blessing that was to come. By faith, your chosen people waited in longing for that blessing, until, in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son, born in the flesh from one whose faith was not in vain. In that son is the fulfillment of the faith and hope of all the saints. In him is our salvation won and your eternal love revealed.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In heaven and on earth, O God, the saints and angels unite around your holy altar to proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

We remember and hold fast to Christ's examples of faith and life as the saints before us have done. We remember his living among outcasts and sinners, his concern for the poor, his life of prayer and worship, and his teachings about your love.

But chiefly we remember his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again to raise us and all the faithful departed to live together eternally in fellowship with him in his heavenly kingdom.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine and upon us also, that we might know the presence of him who is the hope and salvation of the living and the dead, and through him, be united in prayer and praise with all those who have gone before us.

With this feast, join us in one holy communion of saints, one great cloud of witnesses, with St. Peter and St. Paul, with St. John and St. Mary Magdalene, with our brother Charles and all the blessed dead whose lives of faith in unseen things continue to inspire us, as we lift our voices to you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in eternal glory, now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

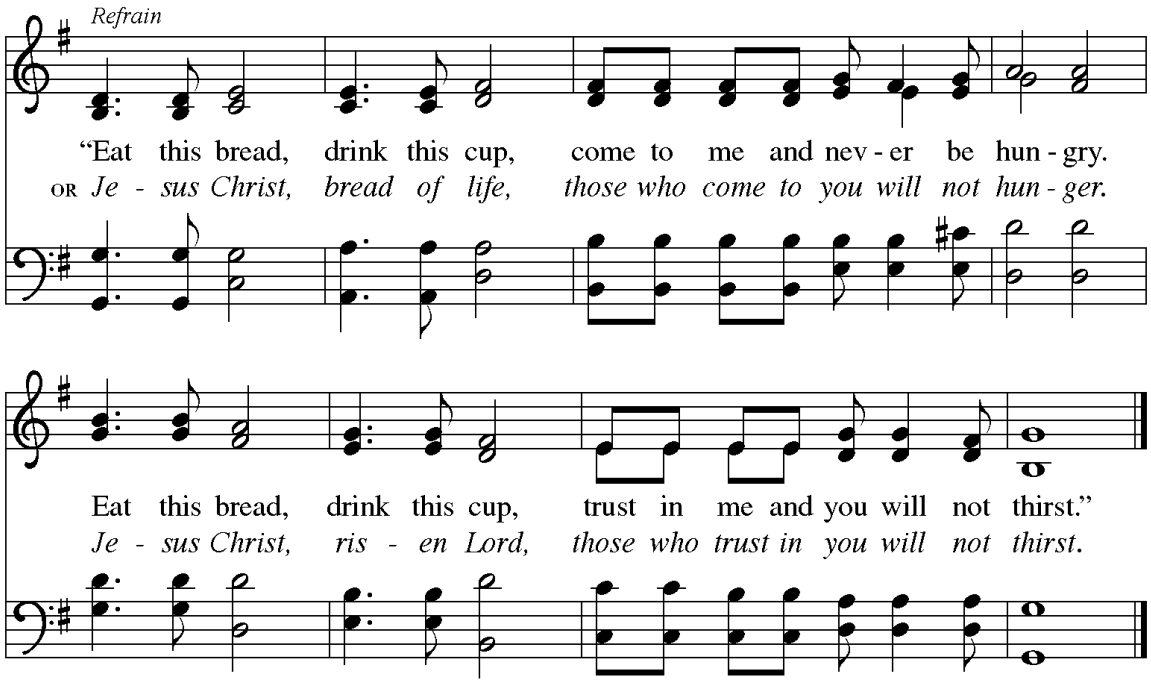
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

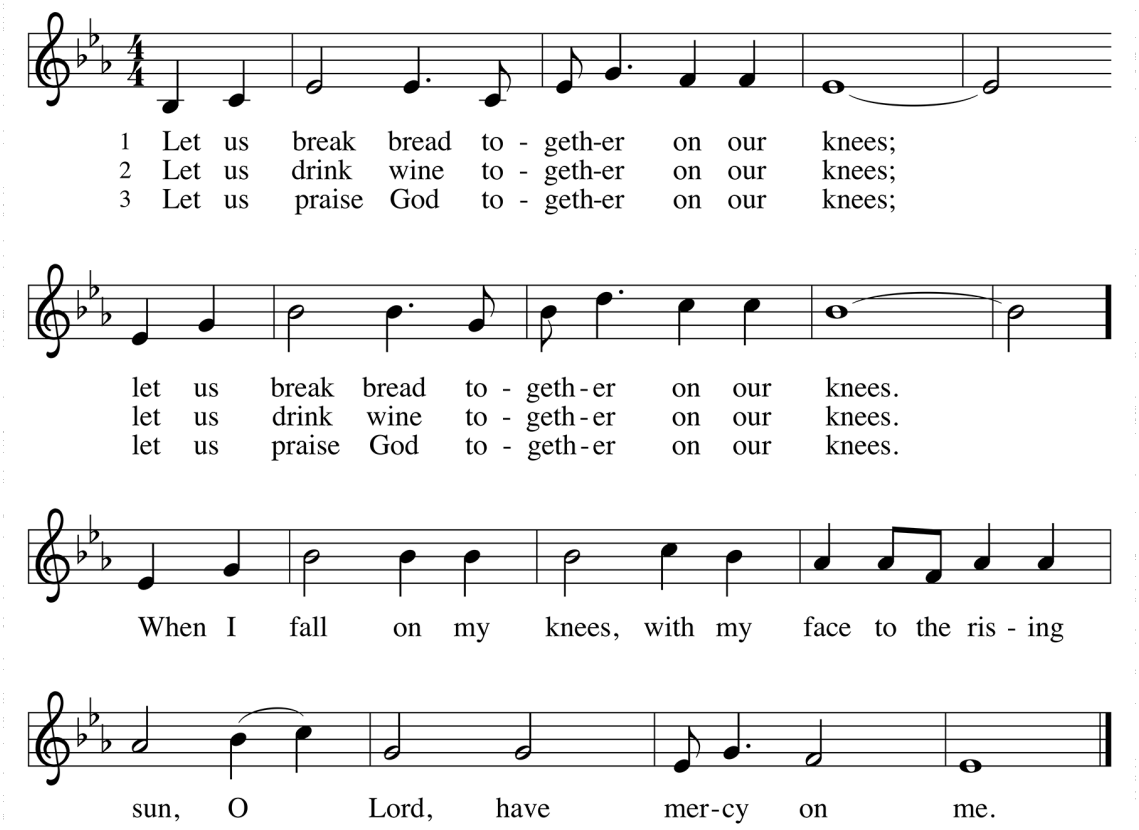
COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 472

"Eat This Bread: Jesus Christ, Bread of Life"

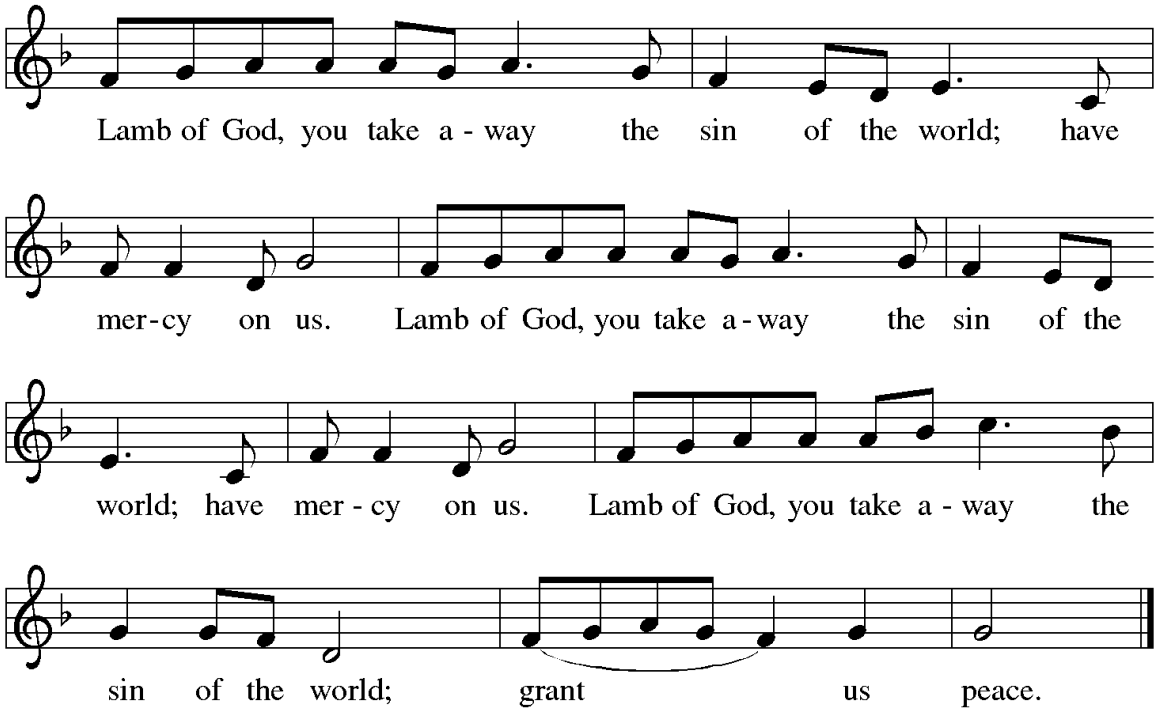

Refrain
"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

COMMUNION HYMN *"Let Us Break Bread Together"* ELW 471


1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;
let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

LAMB OF GOD CANTICLE


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in peace

COMMENDATION

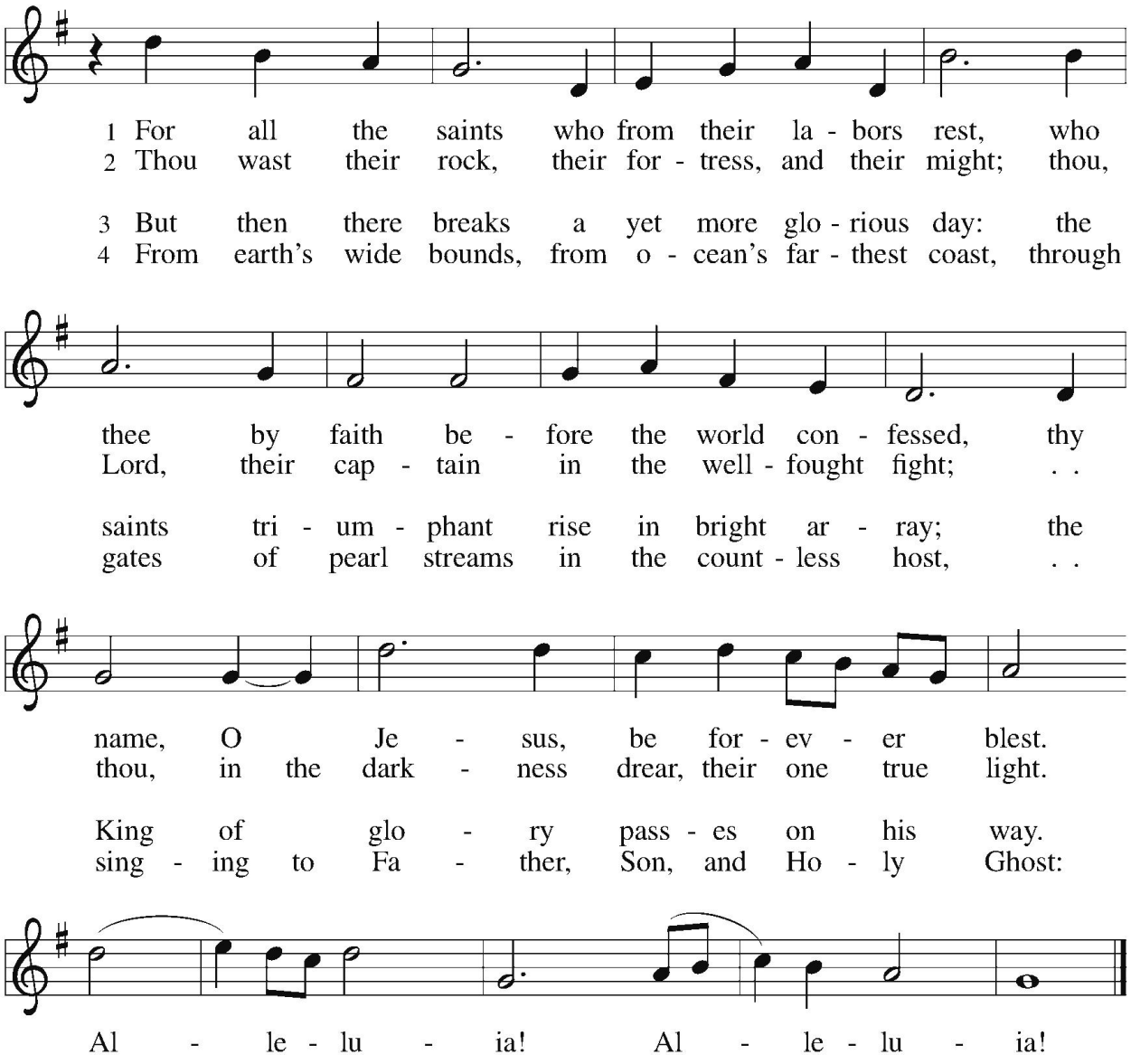
Let us commend Charles to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Charles. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Amen.

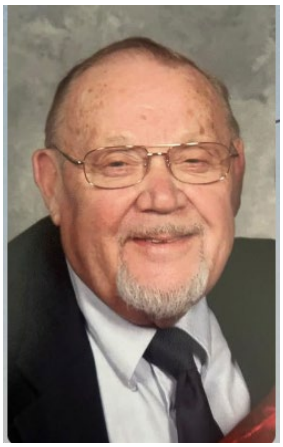
SENDING HYMN *"For All the Saints"* ELW 422

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
3 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
4 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through
thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .
saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .
name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

A procession may form and leave the church, the ministers leading.



Charles Reeves Conklin
August 24, 1932 – May 31, 2024

Age 91, passed away Friday, May 31, 2024 in Superior Township, MI. He was born August 24, 1932 in Harrisville, MI, the son of Austin and Sylvia (Miller) Conklin. He married Louise Wilcox in 1955 and they recently celebrated 69 years of marriage.

Charles retired from Ford Motor Company in December 1988 after a successful 20+ year career with the company. In his free time, he enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing and tinkering in his garage. He loved spending time with his grandchildren and taking his children camping when they were younger.

Charles was a member of the Ypsilanti Optimist Club, volunteered as a player agent for Ypsilanti Little League baseball and was a faithful blood donor. Charles was a parishioner of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Ypsilanti and a former attendee of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti, where he was very active. He served in the Navy as a photographer on the USS Mindoro during the Korean War.

Charles is survived by his beloved wife Louise Conklin, children Michael (Michelle) Conklin, Sharon (Marty) Thompson, Barry Conklin and Suzy Conklin; grandchildren Monica Conklin, Megan Conklin, Marisa Conklin, Kathryn Thompson, Benjamin (Magda Duck) Thompson, Briana (Marcus) Washington, Cody Conklin, Alex Linke, Elizabeth Linke and Melissa (Rb) Murray; and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents Austin and Sylvia Conklin; brother Ken Conklin and sister Margaret Ockstadt.

A memorial service will be held 2:30 pm Saturday, June 15, 2024 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church (201 N. River Street, Ypsilanti). Military Honors will start the service. Visitation will begin at 1 pm. Donations can be made to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Charles' name.

SERVING IN WORSHIP:

Interim Pastor.....Rev. Joshua Rinas
Organist.....David Meitzler
Assisting Minister..... Amanda Palmer
Remembrances..... Suzy Conklin and Rev. Mike Conklin
Ushers.....Costine Dumitrache, Lori Blanton, Richard Teall
Acolyte.....Steve Palmer
Readers..... Bunny Arbaugh and Scott Merritts

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